

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (withdrawn) A lancing method comprising the steps of:
driving one of a permanent magnetic element and a member capable of being affected by magnetic forces emanating from the permanent magnet in communication with a lancet by the other of the element and the member to pierce a user.

2. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of:
withdrawing the driven lancet.

3. (withdrawn) A lancing using a lancing device with a housing and lancet therein, comprising the steps of:
driving a lancet in communication with one of a permanent magnetic element and member capable of being affected by magnetic forces emanating from the permanent magnet by the other of the permanent magnetic element and member so a tip of the lancet exits the housing to puncture a user.

4. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 3 further including the step of:
withdrawing the driven lancet back into the housing also by the other of the permanent magnetic element and the member.

5. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 3 wherein the step of driving the lancet involves having the one of the permanent magnetic element and the member passing through the other of the permanent magnetic element and the member.

6. (withdrawn) A lancing method comprising the steps of:
driving a lancet in communication with one of a permanent magnetic element and a member capable of being attracted and repelled by magnetic forces radiating from the permanent magnet by the other of the element and the member to pierce a user.

7. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 6 further including the step of:

withdrawing the driven lancet.

8. (withdrawn) A lancing method comprising the steps of:

positioning both a permanent magnetic element and a member capable of being affected by magnetic forces emanating from the permanent magnetic element with a housing with a lancet in communication with one of either the permanent magnetic element or the member, the lancet being movable between a withdrawn position wherein the lancet is within the housing and a piercing position wherein the lancet is projecting from the housing and adapted to be movable from a withdrawn position to the piercing position by the movement of one of either the permanent magnetic element or member relative to the other of either the permanent magnetic element or the member;

positioning either the member or the permanent magnetic element to an armed position wherein the magnetic forces from the permanent magnetic element affect the member; and releasing the one of either the member or the permanent magnetic element from the armed position permitting movement between the member and permanent magnetic element by at least, in part, the magnetic forces, resulting in the movement of the lancet from a withdrawn position to the piercing position.

9. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

holding the one of either the member or the permanent magnetic element in the armed position, the lancet being in a withdrawn position.

10. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

adjusting the lancet for selectively controlling the positioning of the piercing position.

11. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

adapting the permanent magnetic element and the member so as to permit one to pass through the other and the other to pass around the one.

12. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

connecting the lancet in communication to the member so that movement of the member results in corresponding movement of the lancet.

13. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

orienting and configuring the permanent magnetic element and the member within the housing in such a manner that in the armed position, the magnetic forces of the permanent magnetic element attract the member to the permanent magnetic element and when the member is released, the member travels towards the permanent magnetic element and past the permanent magnetic element by the momentum of the traveling member resulting in the lancet traveling to the piercing position.

14. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

orienting and configuring the permanent magnetic element and the member within the housing in such a manner so as to create a steady state position between the withdrawn position and the piercing position wherein the magnetic forces of the permanent magnetic element hold the member concentric therewith and the lancet is within the housing.

15. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

orienting and configuring the permanent magnetic element and the member within the housing such that in the armed position, the magnetic forces of the permanent magnetic element attract the member to the permanent magnetic element and when the member is released, the member travels towards the permanent magnetic element, through the steady state position concentric with the magnet, past the permanent magnetic element by the momentum of the traveling member and back to the steady states position resulting in the lancet traveling to the piercing position and back to a position within the housing.

16. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:

fixing the permanent magnetic element within an inner shaft; and
fixing the member around an outer shaft;
moving the outer shaft relative to the inner shaft.

17. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 16 further including the step of:

releasably connecting the lancet to the outer shaft.

18. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 further including the step of:
releasably connecting an end cap to the housing.

19. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 wherein the member is selectively held in the armed position or released from the armed position by a switch, such switch is selectively engaging or disengaging a member, the member is being held in the armed position and the lancet is in the withdrawn position when the switch engages the member and the member and lancet being free to move from the armed and withdrawn positions when the switch is disengaged from the member.

20. (cancelled)

21. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8 wherein the step of position either the member or the permanent magnetic element to an armed position wherein the magnetic forces from the permanent magnetic element affecting the member involves moving an arming member which mechanically moves a collar from the steady state position to the armed position.

22. (currently amended) The method of ~~Claim 21~~ Claim 24 further including the step of:

holding the arming member to the housing by at least one spring.

23. (new) A lancing method comprising the steps of:

positioning both a permanent magnetic element and a member capable of being affected by magnetic forces emanating from the permanent magnetic element with a housing with a lancet in communication with one of either the permanent magnetic element or the member, the lancet being movable between a withdrawn position wherein the lancet is within the housing and a piercing position wherein the lancet is projecting from the housing and adapted to be movable from a withdrawn position to the piercing position by the movement of one of either the permanent magnetic element or member relative to the other of either the permanent magnetic element or the member;

positioning either the member or the permanent magnetic element to an armed position wherein the magnetic forces from the permanent magnetic element affect the member;

releasing the one of either the member or the permanent magnetic element from the armed position permitting movement between the member and permanent magnetic element by at least, in part, the magnetic forces, resulting in the movement of the lancet from a withdrawn position to the piercing position;

fixing the permanent magnetic element within an inner shaft;

fixing the member around an outer shaft; and

moving the outer shaft relative to the inner shaft.

24. (new) A lancing method comprising the steps of:

positioning both a permanent magnetic element and a member capable of being affected by magnetic forces emanating from the permanent magnetic element with a housing with a lancet in communication with one of either the permanent magnetic element or the member, the lancet being movable between a withdrawn position wherein the lancet is within the housing and a piercing position wherein the lancet is projecting from the housing and adapted to be movable from a withdrawn position to the piercing position by the movement of one of either the permanent magnetic element or member relative to the other of either the permanent magnetic element or the member;

positioning either the member or the permanent magnetic element to an armed position wherein the magnetic forces from the permanent magnetic element affect the member;

releasing the one of either the member or the permanent magnetic element from the armed position permitting movement between the member and permanent magnetic element by at least, in part, the magnetic forces, resulting in the movement of the lancet from a withdrawn position to the piercing position; and

positioning either the member or the permanent magnetic element to an armed position wherein the magnetic forces from the permanent magnetic element affect the member involves moving an arming member which mechanically moves the collar from the steady state position to the armed position.